

COUNTRY 1

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 25X1DATE OBTAINED 7 January 1953REFERENCES PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Buildings Nos 12, 17, 18 and 20 located in the D area of Camp Sachsenhausen in Oranienburg were two-story permanent quarters for personnel which were only partly occupied prior to 30 October and were under the command of Major Petrovyetts (phonetical spelling) (fnu) who was administrative officer of the unit. a small number of personnel with motor transport insignia. Building No 16 which housed a kitchen belonged to the area of the unit. Building No 13 was used as warehouse and depot and building No 3 housed a sawmill. Major Petrovyetts had his apartment in a building which was referred to as building No 14 and was located at 32 Jaeger Strasse. Between buildings Nos 16, 17, 18 and 20 were trucks

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Three armored personnel carriers were parked in front of building No 111. A signal office equipped with telegraph machines and operated by two soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets who had ear-phones was in the basement of a wooden structure which was the second building east of building No 118 on Bernauer Allee and was referred to as building No 122. The other wooden structures east of building No 118 were officers' buildings. The officers accommodated there belonged to buildings Nos 121, 123 and 125. Truck was parked in front of building No 125. The depot located at 9 Friedrich Strasse was transferred to building No 135 which was previously known as Waldhaus. The unit quartered in building No 121 was given the former Schuetzenhaus on Bernauer Allee between Eisenbahn Strasse and Markgrafen Strasse as cultural house. Truck supplied the kitchen in building No 129.¹

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2. On 4 November, the army section of the restricted Weisse Stadt area was not occupied. The area was guarded by two civilian guards.

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3. From 4 to 27 November, buildings Nos 2 and 3 in area A of Camp Sachsenhausen were unoccupied. Buildings Nos 4 and 5 served as sheds. Building No 6 was an officers kitchen of Unit Markin. Building No 7 served as officers' bath of Unit Markin. Building No 8 was a wooden structure and served as a depot. Building No 9 was occupied by 200 soldiers of Unit Markin. Building No 10 served as quarters for about 25 uniformed women who were employed as clerical personnel. Buildings Nos 12, 14, 16, 18, 33 and 40 in area B which served as quarters of personnel were occupied to capacity. Workmen stated that about 400 signal and infantry troops were quartered there. Building No 105, about 35 meters long, 10 meters wide and 5 meters high, a recently constructed shed, sheltered 48 trucks of driving school Unit Markin. Building No 29 served as coal store. Building No 104 of Unit Stepanesh which had served as kitchen was completely vacant. Building No 103 was a laundry which employed only Soviet personnel. Buildings Nos 3, 5, 26 and 28 were vacant prior to 20 November. Buildings Nos 1, 24 and 25 were occupied by personnel of driving school Unit Markin. Buildings Nos 4 through 11 in area D which was referred to as Industriehof, quartered personnel of the unit of Lieutenant Colonel Skoropa which had an estimated strength of 1,000 to 1,200 soldiers. Buildings Nos 12 and 13 quartered the tank unit of Lieutenant Colonel Stepanesh (fnu) which had an estimated strength of 500 soldiers. Buildings Nos 17, 18, 19 and 20 were wooden garages sheltering trucks. Building No 16 was a steel structure with a wooden roof and was referred to as steel kitchen; it was being completed and was believed to serve units quartered in area D. A wooden fence, three meters high, was on both sides of the kitchen. Buildings Nos 131 and 133 which were numbered 77 and 78 by the Soviet camp headquarters and were located near the SS barracks installation were occupied to capacity. The units of Lieutenant Colonel Chuk (fnu) had an estimated strength of about 1,800 to 2,000 soldiers. Some of the personnel quartered there were previously located in building No 150, T-building, which was being converted into offices, class rooms, orderly rooms and a gymnasium under supervision of Lieutenant Colonel Chuk. All workmen had to leave the camp by order of the commanding officer at 3 p.m. on 4 November. [redacted] preparations were made for the revolution ceremony, with about 2,000 soldiers practicing for a review with music. Work was resumed only on 11 November. [redacted] all units stationed at the SS Kaserne alternately received instruction in the new instruction room in building No 150 between 9 and 11 a.m. and, subsequently, performed drill or maintained tanks and trucks. After 2 to 3 p.m., they messed at kitchen No 129. Tanks seen passing through Schuetzen Strasse in the direction of the camp included T-34s [redacted] on 12 November; T-34s [redacted] on 14 November; and T-34s [redacted] on 16 November. T-34s [redacted] went toward Friedrichsthal on 21 November, coming from the Sachsenhausen railroad station. Most of the trucks were jacked up and some had wet paint. [redacted] On 27 November, 20 young Soviet officers wearing tank insignia boarded the train for Oranienburg in Birkenwerder. They were met in Oranienburg by a senior lieutenant of the Unit Chuk and were taken to Camp Sachsenhausen.
4. On 16 November, all German employees in Camp Sachsenhausen with the possible exception of one foreman were dismissed on continued pay until 30 November.⁴ Prior to 26 November, the former army section of the restricted Weisse Stadt area was vacant.

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5. Between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. on 5 November, about 2,000 soldiers and a band were lined up between buildings Nos 128, 129, 131 and 133 of the SS Kaserne. [] the amount of activity in areas C and D that the installation was occupied by about 3,000 soldiers.

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The soldiers seen wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank, artillery, motor transport and signal insignia and blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and black-bordered crimson epaulets with no insignia. On 15 and 20 November, there was little activity. [] the soldiers policed their quarters and maintained motor vehicles. Coal was continuously hauled to the camp. Motor vehicles []

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were seen at the installation.

6. Shipments observed at the Oranienburg freight station included:

On 7 November. At 6:21 a.m., two boxcars with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, 8 sealed boxcars, 10 empty boxcars and 12 flatcars with sideracks carrying 12 factory new [] trucks [] en route from Frankfurt/Oder to Wolmirstedt. At 11:43 a.m., one boxcar with personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Eberswalde to Boetzow on the Havel River.

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On 8 November. At 4:30 p.m., one boxcar with two officers and five soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Bernau to Jueterbog Altes Lager.

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On 9 November. At 11:10 a.m., one boxcar with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and four sealed boxcars [] en route from Jueterbog to Bad Freienwalde.

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At 4:33 p.m., one boxcar with an officer and six soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Torgau to Eberswalde.

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On 12 November. At 11:43 a.m., one boxcar with two officers and six soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Teltow to Fuerstenberg on Havel River.

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At 3:31 p.m., one boxcar with two officers and eight soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and four sealed boxcars [] en route from Vogelsang to Jueterbog Altes Lager.

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On 13 November. At 10:34 a.m., twelve flatcars with sideracks carrying lumber [] en route from Vogelsang to Jueterbog.

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At 11:43 a.m., one boxcar with two officers and six soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three boxcars with cots and billeting equipment [] en route from Teltow to Fuerstenberg on the Havel River.

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At 3:31 p.m., one boxcar with two officers and six soldiers and two sealed boxcars [] en route from Eberswalde to Torgau.

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On 15 November. At 9:25 a.m., one boxcar with an officer and four soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and two sealed boxcars [] en route from Jueterbog to Neustrelitz.

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On 16 November. At 7:10 a.m., T-34 tanks [] which were unloaded at the station and left toward Camp Sachsenhausen coming from Prenzlau.

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At 11:43 a.m., one boxcar with an officer and six soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Torgau to Bernau.

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On 17 November. At 3:30 p.m., a coach with two officers and five soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and two sealed boxcars [] en route from Kirchmooser to Templin. At 3:11 p.m., two boxcars which were loaded with clothing hauled to the station by truck [] and dispatched to Eberswalde []

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On 19 November. At 9:31 a.m., one boxcar with an officer and five soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Neubrandenburg to Jueterbog Altes Lager.

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At 2:20 p.m., one boxcar with two officers and five soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and three sealed boxcars [] en route from Bernau to Jueterbog Altes Lager.

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On 21 November. At 5:33 a.m., two flatcars with sideracks with sections of prefabricated houses from Eberswalde which were unloaded in Oranienburg and whose load was hauled away by truck []

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On 22 November. At 11:43 a.m., T-34 tank [] which was dispatched [] in Templin.

On 24 November. At 11:43 a.m., one boxcar with an officer and four soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and one flatcar with side racks carrying one T-34 tank [] en route from Wuensdorf to Neustrelitz.²

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7. On 23 October, [] Colonel Gruenshenko (fnu) was camp commander of Camp Sachsenhausen and supervised the construction project in Zehdenick [] was a 40,000,000 eastmark project. [] the troops would stay in Zehdenick in 1953 and that Camp Sachsenhausen would then be occupied by VP. [] Colonel Skoropa (fnu) and Captain Vasilenko (fnu) were either transferred or discharged.¹

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1. Comment. The SS Kaserne and the Sachsenhausen concentration camp are believed occupied to capacity by units of the 25th Tank Div to which most of the motor vehicle [] belong. Units identified included: the 162d Tank Regt with its commanding officer or its supply officer Colonel Chuk or Shuk; the [] tank training battalion equipped with T-34 tanks [] motor transport battalion with its supply officer Lieutenant Colonel Parkin and, probably, the [] signal battalion. All these officers

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were previously reported. Colonel Gruenshenko is believed to be the ranking supply officer of the division and superior of Captain Vasilenko. Lieutenant Colonel Stepanesh probably belongs to the 11th Tank Regt while Colonel Skorona possibly belongs to the 20th Mtz Rifle Regt.

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beginning in the fall of 1955, units of the 25th Tank Div from Oranienburg would remain in the Templin training area and that their previous quarters would be occupied by VPs. It is therefore believed that the barracks installations in the area of Templin will be completed by that time.

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